

VOLVO

Customer Case Study

VOLVO FM ELECTRIC



CHIVAS BROTHERS

Chivas Brothers, one of Scotland's leading Scotch whisky producers and makers of Chivas Regal and The Glenlivet, has taken delivery of Scotland's first on-road all-electric tractor unit – a Volvo FM Electric.

This is a milestone in Chivas Brothers' net-zero journey, which implements innovative technologies to drive sustainable change.

STATISTICS:

- The 6x2 Volvo FM Electric tractor unit will pull a tri-axle box van trailer, operating at up to 44 tonnes gross vehicle weight.
- Powered by three electrical motors, generating an output of 666 hp and 2,400 Nm of continuous torque.
- Capable of hauling approximately 24 tonnes of whisky per journey.
- Equipped with five batteries, which allows for a range of up to 250km.

“We are a proudly Scottish business and feel a deep responsibility to further the sustainability agenda, not only in whisky but for Scotland at large. While it is a true first for both, enabling us to progress towards a sustainable future for Scotch, innovating in electrification stands to benefit industries well beyond our own.”

JEAN-ETIENNE GOURGUES, CHAIRMAN AND CEO OF CHIVAS BROTHERS

Volvo Trucks. Driving Progress



Why Volvo Electric

The delivery of the FM Electric forms the basis of a first-of-its-kind pilot programme, to be managed by McPherson's, Chivas Brothers' long-term haulage partner, designed to push the truck to its full capabilities and help the industry understand how electrification can benefit heavy trucks in the future.

The pilot is expected to run for an initial two-year period, from which the truck's range, uptime, safety and operational ease of use will be assessed to determine the viability for a wider rollout across Chivas Brothers' transport fleet in the future.

"We passionately believe that creating the highest-quality whisky should not mean compromising on sustainable and responsible business practice," says Jean-Etienne. "This pilot will show us what is possible through long-term collaboration with partners who recognise the importance of our sustainability vision and remain steadfast in innovating to realise our shared success."

The Volvo Solution

The all-electric tractor unit will operate from McPherson's local depot, where a 43kW charger has been installed. This site is situated adjacent to Chivas Brothers' world-class Kilmalid facility.

The Volvo FM Electric features three electrical motors, generating an output of 666 hp and 2,400 Nm of continuous torque, paired with Volvo's renowned I-Shift gearbox to deliver a smooth and ultra-quiet in-cab driving experience.

The truck has been specified to meet the needs of a specific application, being equipped with five batteries, which allows for a range of up to 250km dependent on operational, driving and environmental conditions. When specified with the maximum six batteries, an FM Electric is typically capable of travelling up to 300km on a full charge.

The Results

This truck alone will cut Chivas Brothers' carbon emissions by 155 tonnes per annum, part of the business' commitment to reducing its overall carbon footprint by 50 per cent by 2030, and further contributing to Scotland's own goal to achieve net-zero status by 2045.

This is a milestone in Chivas Brothers' net-zero journey, which implements innovative technologies to drive sustainable change. The producer has already rolled out other sustainable transport solutions across its operations, including a fleet of six circular bio-gas trucks and 19 site-based shunt vehicles, approximately half of which are currently trialling hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) fuel.

"Whisky is enjoyed by millions across the globe, but it is crucial that we work toward ensuring that the future of our most popular export is both carbon neutral and sustainable. I hope that companies across all sectors will be inspired by the bold approach shown by Chivas Brothers and Volvo Trucks. Similar bold and urgent action will be needed across all sectors in order to secure a net-zero future for Scotland," says Jean-Etienne.

